In The Claims:

A marked-up version of the claims showing the amendments is attached hereto as Exhibit A. Matter that has been deleted from the claims is indicated by brackets and matter that has been added is indicated by underlining.

Please cancel Claim 22 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Please enter the following amended claims:

21. (Twice Amended) A method of treatment of liver dysfunction in a subject in need thereof comprising administering a genetically engineered autologous hepatocyte precursor cell, wherein a hepatocyte precursor cell is removed from said subject, is genetically engineered *ex vivo* to be capable of treating said liver dysfunction, and is administered to the subject.

23. (Once Amended) The method of treatment of Claim 43 wherein the administering comprises injecting, transplanting, or grafting.

25. (Once Amended) The method of treatment of Claim 43 wherein the subject further comprises a liver or a spleen and the administering comprises injecting, transplanting, or grafting the genetically engineered hepatocyte precursor cell, progeny thereof, or both into the liver or the spleen of the subject.

27. (Once Amended) The method of treatment of Claim 43 wherein the genetic

modification comprises transducing a hepatocyte precursor cell with a vector comprising a genetic material or a selectable marker.

29. (Once Amended) The method of Claim 43 wherein the genetically engineered hepatocyte precursor cell expresses at least one gene of interest as a result of the genetic engineering.

39. (Once Amended) The method of treatment of Claim 43 wherein the subject is human.

40. (Once Amended) A drug delivery system for delivering an expressed therapeutic polypeptide drug or protein drug to a subject having a liver dysfunction comprising genetically engineered hepatocyte precursor cells wherein the genetically engineered hepatocyte precursor cells express, as a result of said genetic engineering, said therapeutic polypeptide drug or protein drug in an amount effective to treat said liver dysfunction.

Please add the following new claims:

41. (Newly Added) A method of treatment of liver dysfunction in a human subject in need thereof comprising administering a histocompatible normal hepatocyte precursor cell, progeny thereof, or both to the human subject and treating liver dysfunction, wherein the normal hepatocyte precursor cell has been removed previously from a histocompatible donor and is capable of treating the liver dysfunction in said human subject.